

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino **Josie Gonzales 5th District**

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**JGFDS-PR-178 ILLEGAL DUMPING ENFORCEMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **COUNTY COMBATS ILLEGAL DUMPING**

SAN BERNARDINO – San Bernardino County this week will roll out a comprehensive program to curb illegal dumping in unincorporated communities, including Arrowhead Farms, Bloomington, Muscoy and North Norton.

The Board of Supervisors Tuesday approved a contract with We Tip Inc. to manage a \$25,000 reward program to encourage residents to report persons who trash their neighborhoods.

Last month, the Board adopted an illegal dumping ordinance that establishes fines for illegal dumping. The ordinance becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, April 20.

At 5th District Supervisor Josie Gonzales' urging, the Board also approved the purchase of eight additional surveillance camera systems for \$60,000 to catch and deter illegal dumpers. Last year, the County purchased two camera systems with grant funds.

"We are proud to live in San Bernardino County. We value our communities. And, we support our residents in their efforts to improve their neighborhoods. We cannot tolerate anyone who seeks to spoil that," Gonzales said.

Under the illegal dumping ordinance, any person who illegally dumps waste matter or causes, maintains and/or permits waste matter to be illegally dumped in an unincorporated area is guilty of an infraction. Infraction fines are:

- \$100 for a first conviction
- \$200 for a second conviction
- \$500 for a third and subsequent convictions.

Any person illegally dumping or causing, maintaining and/or permitting the illegal dumping of waste generated by a business and any person illegally dumping at least one cubic yard of waste is guilty of a misdemeanor.

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Misdemeanor penalties are:

- a fine of \$500 to \$3,000 for a first conviction
- a fine of \$500 to \$6,000 for a second conviction
- a fine of \$500 to \$10,000 and/or up to six months in jail for a third and subsequent convictions.

To improve the illegal dumping ordinance's effectiveness, Supervisor Gonzales proposed the expansion of the use of surveillance cameras and the establishment of a \$25,000 reward program.

Residents who witness illegal dumping in unincorporated communities will be rewarded up to \$1,000 for information that leads to the identification and/or arrest and conviction of an illegal dumper.

Witnesses should call the We Tip Inc. hotline at 1 (800) 78-CRIME.

The 5th District includes the unincorporated areas of Bloomington, Muscoy and Arrowhead Farms, the city of Rialto, major portions of the cities of Colton and San Bernardino, and a segment of the city of Fontana.

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